(c) the details of efforts made for and success achieved in filling vacancies of the current and preceding years/sessions in respect of different categories of posts of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (c) Statement indicating the requisite details is enclosed. [*See* Appendix CLII, Annexure 3] Apart from specifically indicating the reservation of posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the usual annual advertisements which are published in the Employment News and various News papers, the Sangathan has launched a special drive for filling up the post reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, including the backlog vacancies through special advertisements in Employment News and various News papers. The drive is still continuing.

Popularisation of Computers in the Country

158. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to popularise computers in the country;

(b) whether Government have also any proposal to set up village-based computers; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) 1. Department of Electronics (DOE) through its Public Sector Undertaking, namely, Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation Ltd. (ET&T) has launched a project to make available Personal Computers at low prices which are affordable by the public and is expected to popularise the use of computers in the country. ET&T has also made nationwide arrangements for the training and maintenance of these computer systems at low cost.

2. DOE in association with the Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched a programme for Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS). The programme aims at building computer awareness amongst school children.

3. The computer industry has recorded considerable growth and the applications of computers in various sectors of economy have increased manifold. The usage of computer systems has been promoted in various sectors such as steel, oil, fertilizer, power, banking, insurance, railways etc.

Assessment of Small Farmers and Landless Labourers

159. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the percentage of small farmers and landless labourers likely to go below the poverty line in Rajasthan due to drought;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) what remedial measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the central Government in this regard?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Drought Prone Area Programme has been in operation with the object of creating assets designed to reduce the severity of droughts. The Desert Development Programmes and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana were also designed to help in poverty alleviation.